Identifying and Navigating Barriers to SoTL Work for Junior Faculty Members

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Identifying and Navigating Barriers to SoTL Work for Junior Faculty Members

2007 Georgia Southern, SoTL Commons Conference

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What we will accomplish today

- Brainstorming, Collaborating, and Sharing
  - The Money
  - The Discipline
  - Method to the Madness

- Large Group Discussion/
  Tips and Resources

- Example of a Junior Faculty Driven Project at Howard University
1st Groups

7 minutes
2nd Groups

7 minutes
Final Group

7 minutes
General Questions for the Group

2 minutes

1. What is your title?
2. At what type of institute do you work?
3. Where is your institution located (city/state/region/country)?
4. What is your area of study?
   - Behavioral Sciences
   - Social Sciences
   - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)
   - Humanities
   - Other (Please List)
5. How many have tried to begin a SoTL project?
6. How many are still working on this project?
7. How many have found it difficult to pursue SoTL work?
8. How many have completed a SoTL project?
9. How many have published work on SoTL?
10. Do you feel that SoTL work is valued in your department (re: tenure)?
Share with the Group

2 minutes/topic
Resources – The Money

- National
  - NSF, FIPSE, NEH

- Associations (Field Specific)

- Institutional
  - Faculty Development Center
  - Dean’s Office
  - Departmental Funds (end of year)
Resources – The Money

- Contractual-Start-up Package
  - Match Funds

- Websites
  - Highwire
    http://highwire.stanford.edu/
  - Community of Science (Restricted)
    http://fundingopps.cos.com/
Resources – The Discipline

- Check for mention of SoTL in tenure by your major disciplinary association
- SoTL journals inside/outside the discipline
- Ask how/if SoTL work will impact tenure
  - Can you revise the question?
- If you don’t succeed and want to proceed, narrow your scope
  - Scholarly Teaching vs. Scholarship of Teaching and Learning
Resources – Method to the Madness

- Scientific Approach
  - Literary Review
  - Informed Hypothesis
  - Methods (IRB)
  - Data Collection and Analysis

- Estimated Time and Budget
  - Semi-annual assessment
Learning Communities for STEM Academic Achievement (LCSAA)
History of LCSAA Program

To develop
- learning communities of STEM faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students

To test
- the efficacy of learning communities on African-American students and faculty at HBCUs
Institutions:
Howard University
Talladega College
Xavier University of Louisiana
Jackson State State University

FIPSE funded ($250,000)
LCSAA & Faculty Development

- Teaching Circles
- Interdisciplinary Symposia